CONFUSION HILL NEWS

What is the problem with the hill?

As discussed in our first newsletter, a significant number of road closures have occurred in the Confusion Hill area over the past decade. This is the result of a large ancient slide that is progressively losing strength. This loss of strength will result in increased future slide activity and, depending on the severity of the winter season, will result in an increasing number of road closures.

Aerial photo of the Confusion Hill slide taken in July, 2004

What is being done to solve the problem?

SHORT TERM
Work along the existing roadway has been ongoing since December 2002. This has included removing slide debris, repairing walls below the highway and installing rock fall protection systems. These are interim measures intended to contain rock fall and reduce winter closures.

LONG TERM
Caltrans is proceeding with engineering and environmental studies of a project to relocate the highway to the west of the existing roadway. Caltrans is studying six alternative alignments, and is in the process of identifying the most economically and environmentally feasible alignment for the new roadway.
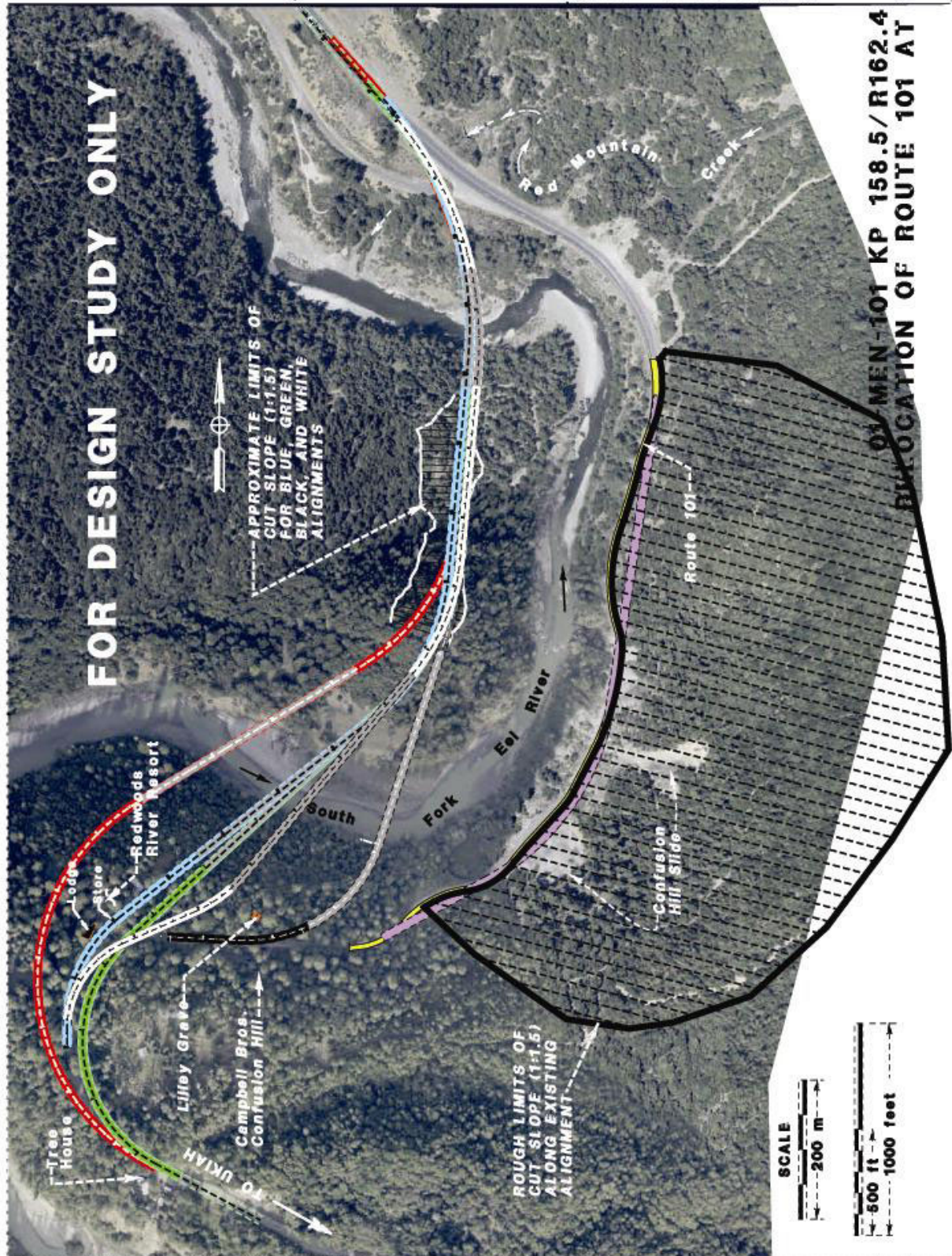
What work is being done this summer?

Caltrans staff are evaluating alternative alignments and preparing the necessary environmental studies for the project. Drill crews have begun geotechnical soils studies in the areas of the new alignments. Additional crews will be added in the next few weeks to insure soil testing is completed by the end of this year. Drilling locations will be accessed via temporary river crossing at the South Fork Eel River and by helicopter. In addition, environmental and design team personnel will periodically be on site for detailed investigations in their respective areas of specialty.
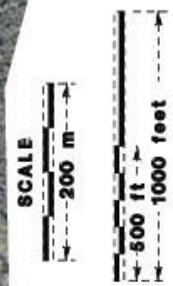
For additional information on this project, please visit our Confusion Hill Website at:
http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist1/d1projects/confusionhill

FOR DESIGN STUDY ONLY

TO GARBERVILLE

LEGEND

STRUCTURES

ROADWAY
Alignment: Red
(Approx. Alignment from PSR)
Alignment: Blue
Alignment: Green
Alignment: Black
Alignment: White
Cut Slope on
Existing Alignment

Existing Alignment

DATE: January 30, 2004

(PM 98.5/R100.9)
01-MEN-101 KP 158.5/R162.4
RELOCATION OF ROUTE 101 AT
CONFUSION HILL
EA 01-397510

APPROXIMATE LIMITS OF
CUT SLOPE (1:1.5)
FOR BLUE, GREEN,
BLACK, AND WHITE
ALIGNMENTS

Red Mountain Creek

Route 101

Eel River

South Fork

Confusion Hill Slide

Redwoods River Resort

Lodge
Store

Likey Grove

Campbell Bros.
Confusion Hill

Tree House

TO UKIAH

ROUGH LIMITS OF
CUT SLOPE (1:1.5)
ALONG EXISTING
ALIGNMENT

SCALE
200 m
500 ft
1000 feet

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Caltrans